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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/832,666	04/11/2001	Tomoaki Aihara	P/1878-169	1818
2352	7590 02/14/2003			
OSTROLENK FABER GERB & SOFFEN 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 100368403			EXAMINER	
			NGUYEN, ЛММҮ	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2829	
			DATE MAILED: 02/14/2003	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Offic Action Summary Og/832,666	, ,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Application No.	Applicant(s)	1			
Disposition of Claims 1-22 is/are pending in the application. 2029		, 	09/832,666	AIHARA, TOMOAKI				
The MALING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address ~ Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MALING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Entendors of the may be available used by sprotition of 3 CFR 1.18(a). In no event, nowers, may a reply be limitely filled If the period for regly specified above is the share hithy (30, days, a reply within the stability minimum of bird (90) days will be considered timely. If the period for regly specified above is the share hithy (30, days, a reply within the stability of the state of the communication of the period for regly specified above is the share hithy (30, days, a reply within the stability minimum of bird (90) days will be considered timely. If the period for regly specified above is the share hithy (30, days, a reply within the stability minimum of bird (90) days will be considered timely. If the period for regly specified above is the share hithy and the state of the state of the communication. If the period for regly specified above is the share hithy and the state of the s		Offic Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
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A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of the may be available under the provision of 37 CFR 1.58(a). In no event, however, may a reply be limitly filled. - If the period for reply is pecified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory mention for reply is pecified above. Be maintenant acturing proved may be used to reply the period for reply is pecified above. Be maintenant acturing proved may be used to reply the period down, the maintenant acturing proved by the statute of reply is pecified above. Be maintenant acturing proved with the statutory mention that the maintenant acturing proved above. The maintenant acturing proved and period of the communication. - Fabric to reply specified above. Be maintenant acturing proved and proved and acturing the statute of the maintenance, were fabrication to become Aphaticon to become Aphaticon to become Aphaticon to be come aphaticon, which the provided and the communication, which is a period of the actual to the communication to be come and accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quay/e, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. 5) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 8) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected to by the Examiner. Application Papers Application Papers Application and the security of the provided of the pro			cation appears on the cover she	et with the correspondence address	_			
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Application/Control Number: 09/832,666

Art Unit: 2829

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Argument

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 7, 14 and 21 have been considered but are most in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- 2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 1 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (figs 1 3) in view of Zamborelli (US 5172051).

As to claims 1, 7, 14, 21, The admitted prior art (figs 1-3) disclose an inspection method and apparatus for simultaneously inspecting a plurality of semiconductor devices (64) each having a terminal (65) for an input signal, comprising the steps of.

Preparing a driver (62) for outputting a signal to be used for inspection; Connecting an output terminal of driver (62) to a branching point (66b). Application/Control Number: 09/832,666

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However, the admitted prior art is silent on connecting each of terminals of the semiconductor devices and the branching point through a current limiting element and a capacitor connected in parallel to current limiting element; and

Outputting a signal from driver toward branching point.

On the other hand, Zamborelli disclose (fig 4) connection each of terminals of the semiconductor devices (104) and the branching point through a current limiting element (Rc) and a capacitor (Cc) connected in parallel to current limiting element (Rc); and Outputting a signal (150) from driver toward branching point.

It would have been obvious to one having an ordinary skill in the art at time of the invention was made to modify the admitted prior art and using the probe tip assembly (101 with a RC parallel) for the purpose of reducing in stray capacitance and increasing the probe bandwidth (COLUMN 4 LINE 49 –51)

As to claims 2, 8, 16, 19, 23, 26, Zamborelli disclose the inspection method further comprise wherein a resistor (Rc or Rt) is used as current limiting element.

As to claim 13, The admitted prior art must (in the obvious way) provide the external clock (CLOCK) is supplied to the second terminals through the second driver (in order the to activate the chips

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As to claims 15, 22, Zamborelli disclose the current limiting elements (Rc) and

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the capacitors (Cc) are provided in a probe card (a probe tip in this case) or a test board

for connecting semiconductor device (104) to be inspected to a tester (150).

As to claims 3 - 6, 9 - 12, 17, 18, 20, 24, 25, 27 - 29, Zamborelli discloses the

claimed invention except for the value of resistor and capacitor. It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use

appropriate values for resistors, capacitors, and frequency given the device application

since it has been held that discovering an optimum value of a result effective variable

involves only routine skill in the art. In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA

1980).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jimmy Nguyen at (703) 306-5858. Any inquiry of a

general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be

directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4900.

KAMAND CUNI

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

JN. Feb 4, 2003

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